1. June 1643 Hib. 7. 643. 5

The King's Majesties DECLARATION

To all His loving Subjects of His Kingdom of *Scotland*.

WITH

AN ACT OF THE LORDS of His *Majesties* Privy Councell for the Printing and Publishing thereof.

AND

A LETTER OF THE LORD Chancellour of *Scotland*, and of other Lords, and others of His *Majesties* Privy Councell in that Kingdom, to His MAJESTIE.

SHREWSBURY,
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the Assignes of JOHN BILL. 1643.

At *Edinburgh* the first day of *June*, 1643.

THE Lords of His Majesties Privy Councell of *Scotland*, having read and considered His Majesties Letter and Declaration this day exhibited unto them by the Earl of *Lanerick* His Majesties Secretary, Do with all humble duty and thankfulnesse acknowledge His Majesties grace and goodnesse, so fully expressed therein towards this Kingdom: and that the same may be made known to all His Majesties good Subjects, do, conform to His Majesties Warrant, ordain the said Declaration to be Printed, and Published at the Market-Crosse of *Edinburgh*, by Heraulds and Pursevants, with sound of Trumpet, and displayed Coats of Armes; and that the Sheriffs, Stewards, Bayliffs of Regalities, and their Deputies, and Magistrates of Burroughs within this Kingdom, have a special care to see the same with all diligence Published and Proclaimed at the Market-Crosses of all Burroughs within their severall Jurisdictions.

Arch. Primerose
Cler. S. Conl.

07—1153

His MAIESTIES Declaration to His loving Subjects of His Kingdom of SCOTLAND.

AS there hath been no means left unattempted by some seditious persons, which the Malice and wit of Rebellion could devise, to infect and poyson the affections and loyalty of our good Subjects of Our Kingdom of England, and to withdraw their hearts from Us, by the most pernicious and desperate calumnies that could be invented, to undervalue and lessen Our reputation with Forraign Princes, by injuries and affronts upon their publike Ministers, and by procuring Agents to be sent, qualified for negotiation without Our consent; and thus to expose Us and Our Regall Authority to scorn and contempt, by assuming a power over Us: so these pernicious contrivers of these bloody distempers, have not delighted in any art more, then in that by which they have hoped to stirre up Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom of Scotland to joyn with them, and to infuse into them a Jealousie and dis-esteem of Our true affection, and Our gracious intentions towards that Nation. To this purpose they have used great industry to convey into that Our Kingdom, and to scatter and disperse their divers seditious Pamphlets, framed and contrived against Our Person and Government, and have procured Agents to be sent to reside there, and to promote their designes.

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One of which lately resident there, one Pickering, by his Letters of the 9. of January from Edinburgh to Master Pym, assures him of the concurrence of that Kingdom, and that the Ministers in the Pulpits doe in down-right terms presse the taking up of Arms. And in another of his Letters of the same date, to Sir John Clatworthy, he sayes, That Trumpets sounded to the Battell, and all cryed, Arm, Arm: with many other bold, scandalous, and seditious passages, very derogatory from that duty and affection which We are most confident Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom bear unto Us. To this purpose they traduce Us with the raising, and making of War against Our Parliament; of having an Army of Papists, and favouring that Religion; of endeavouring to take away the Liberty, and Property of Our Subjects. And upon these grounds they have procured a publike Declaration, to invite Our good Subjects of that Our Kingdom of Scotland, to joyn with them, and to take up Arms against Us their naturall Liege Lord. Lastly, to this purpose they endeavour as well in publike, as by secret by information, to beget an apprehension in them, That if We prevaile so farre here, as by the blessing of God, to preserve Our Self from the ruine they have designed to Us, that the same will be a dangerous influence upon that Our Kingdom of Scotland, and the peace established there; and that the good Laws lately consented to by Us, for the happinesse and welfare of that Our Native Kingdom, will be no longer observed and maintained by Us, when the same necessity, which they say extorted them from Us, hangs upon Us; but that We will turn all Our Forces against them: A calumny so grosse, so silly and impiously raised, that if We were in any degree conscious to Our Self of such wicked intentions, We should not only not expect a favourable sense in that Our Native King-

dom of Our ſufferings, but ſhould think Our Self as unworthy of ſo great bleſſings and eminent protection, as We have received from the hands of the Almighty, to whom We know We muſt yeeld a deer accompt for any breach of truſt, or failing of Our duty towards Our People.

But as We have taken eſpeciall care from time to time to inform Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom of the Occurrences here, particularly by Our Declaration of the 12. of Auguſt, wherein is a plain cleer narration of the beginning and progreſſe of Our ſufferings to that time; So the bold and unwarrantable proceedings of theſe ſeditious Perſons, have been ſo publike and viſible to the world, that Our good Subjects of Scotland could not but take notice of them, and have obſerved, that after We had freely and voluntarily conſented to ſo many Acts of Parliament, as not onely repaired all former grievances, but alſo added whatſoever was propoſed to Us for the future benefit and ſecurity of Our Subjects, in ſo much as in truth there wanted nothing to make the Nation completely happy, but a juſt ſenſe of their own excellent condition; a few diſcontented ambitious and factious perſons, ſo far prevailed over the weakneſſe of others, that in ſtead of receiving that return of thanks and acknowledgement, which We expected and deſerved, Our people were poyſoned with ſeditious and ſcandalous fears and Jealouſies concerning Us; We were encountred with more importunate and unſeaſonable demands; and at laſt were driven by force and tumults, to flee from Our City of London for the ſafety of Our life: after which We were ſtill purſued with unheard-of inſolencies and indignities, and ſuch Members of either Houſe as refuſed to joyn in thoſe unjuſtifiable reſolutions, likewiſe driven from thoſe Counſels, contra-

ry to the freedom and liberty of Parliament; insomuch as above four parts of five of that Assembly were likewise forced, and are still kept from thence. Our Forts, Ships, and Arms are taken from Us; Our Money, Rents, and Revenue seized and detained; and that then a powerfull and formidable Army was raised and conducted against Us (a good part of which was raised and mustered before We had given Our Commissions for raising one man;) That all this time We never denyed any one thing that by the Law We were required to grant, or asked one thing but what by the known Law was unquestionably Our own: That We earnestly pressed and desired a Treaty, that We might but know at what price we might prevent the miseries and desolation which were threatned; That this was absolutely and scornfully refused and rejected, and We compelled, with the assistance of such of Our good Subjects as came to Our succour, to make use of Our defensive Arms for the safety of Our Life, and preservation of Our Posterity. What hath since passed; That battell hath been given Us, Our own Person, and Our Children endeavoured to be destroyed; That unheard-of pressures have been exercised upon Our poor Subjects, by Rapine, Plundering, and Imprisonment, and that confusion which is since brought upon the whole excellent frame of Government of this Kingdom, is the discourse of Christendom. We are very far from making a Warre with, or against Our Parliament, of which We Our Self are an essentiall part; Our principall quarrell is for the Priviledges of Parliament, as well those of the two Houses, as Our own: if a few persons had not by arts and force first awed, and then driven away the rest, these differences had never arisen, much lesse had they ever come to so bloody a decision.

We have often accused these Persons against whom Our

Our quarrell is, and desire to bring them to no other triall, then what by the Law of the Land they ought to be tryed by. And We have been compelled to take up these defensive Arms for the safety of Our Life, assaulted by Rebellious Arms, the defence of the true reformed Protestant Religion, scornfully invaded by Brownists, Anabaptists, and other independent Sectaries, (who in truth are the principall Authors and sole Fomenters of this Civill Warre) for the maintenance of the liberty and property of the Subject, maliciously violated by a vast unlimited power, and for the preservation of the Rights, Dignity and Priviledges of Parliament, almost destroyed by Tumults and faction. So what hath by violence been taken from Us, being restored, and the freedom of meeting in Parliament being secured, We have lately offered (though We have not been thought worthy of an Answer) to Disband Our Army, and leave all differences to the tryall of a full and peaceable Convention in Parliament: and We cannot from Our Soul desire any blessing from Heaven more then We do a peaceable and happy end of these unnaturall Distractions. For the malicious groundlesse Aspersion of Our having an Army of Papists, though in the Condition and strait to which We were brought, no man had reason to wonder, if we received assistance from any of Our Subjects of what Religion soever, who by the Laws of the Land are bound to perform all offices of duty and allegiance to Us; yet it is well known that we took all possible care by Our Proclamations to inhibit any of that Religion to repair to Us, which was precisely, and straitly observed (notwithstanding even at that time We were traduced, as being attended on by none but Papists, when there hath not in a Moneth together one Papist been neer Our Court) though great numbers of that Religion have with all

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alacrity been entertained in that Rebellious Army against Us, and others have been endeavoured to be seduced, to whom We had formerly denyed employment, as appears by the examination of many Prisoners, of whom We have taken twenty and thirty at a time of one Troop or Company, of that Religion. What Our opinion is of the Popish Profession, Our often Solemn Protestations before Almighty God, who knows Our heart, doe manifest to all the World, and what Our practice is in Religion, is not unknown to Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom. And as We have omitted no way Our Conscience and understanding could suggest to Us, for the advancing and promoting the true Protestant Religion, having Protested Our readinesse in a full and Peaceable Convention of Parliament, to consent to what soever shall be proposed to Us by Bill, for the better discovery and speedier Conviction of Recusants, for the education of the Children of Papists by Protestants in the Protestant Religion, for the prevention of the practises of Papists against the State, and the due execution of the Laws against them: So We shall further embrace any just Christian means, to suppresse Popery in all Our Dominions: of which Inclination and Resolution of Ours, that Our Native Kingdom hath received good evidence.

For the other malicious and wicked insinuation, that Our successe here upon the Rebellious Arms raised against Us, to destroy Us, will have an influence upon Our Kingdom of Scotland; and that We will endeavour to get loose from these wholsome Laws which have been enacted by Us there: we can say no more, but that Our good Subjects of that Kingdom doe well remember with what Deliberation, Our Self being present at the Debates, We consented to these Acts. And We doe assure

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Our good Subjects there, and call GOD Almighty to witnesse, of the uprightnesse and resolution of Our heart in that point. That We shall always use Our utmost endeavour to defend and maintain the Rights and Liberties of that Our Native Kingdom, according to the Laws Civill and Ecclesiasticall, established there, and shall no longer look for obedience, then We shall govern by the Laws. And We hope, that Our zeal and courage in the defence onely of the Laws and Government of this Kingdom, and for the subjecting Our self to so great hazard and danger, will be no argument, that when that work is done, We would passe through the same difficulties, to alter and invade the Constitutions of that Our other Kingdom: We finde disadvantages enough to struggle with, in the defence of the most upright, innocent, just cause of taking up Arms. And therefore if We wanted the Conscience, We cannot the discretion to tempt GOD in an unjust Quarrell: the Laws of that Our Kingdom shall be always sacred unto us: We shall refuse no hazard to defend them, but sure We shall run none to invade them.

And therefore We do conjure all Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom, by the long, happy, and uninterrupted Government of us, and Our Royall Progenitors over them, by the memory of those many, large, and publike blessings they enjoyed under Our deer Father, by these ample favours and benefits they have received from us, by their own solemn Nationall Covenant, and their obligation of friendship and Brotherhood with the Kingdom of England, not to suffer themselves to be misled or corrupted in their affections and duty to us, by the cunning malice and industry of these seditious Persons, and their adherents: but to look upon them as Persons who would involve them in their

guilt, and sacrifice the honour, fidelity, and allegiance of that Our Native Kingdom, to their private end and ambition. And We require Our good Subjects there to consider, that the Persons who have contrived, fomented, and doe still maintain these bloody distractions, and this unnaturall Civil warre, what pretence soever they make of the care of the true Reformed Protestant Religion, are in truth Brownists and Anabaptists, and other independent Sectaries. And though they seem to desire an Uniformity of Church-government with Our Kingdom of Scotland, doe no more intend, and are as farre from allowing the Church-government, by Law established there, or indeed any Church-government whatsoever, as they are from consenting to the Episcopall. And We cannot but expect a greater sense of Our sufferings, since the obligations We have laid upon that Our Native Kingdom, are used as Arguments against Us here: and Our free consenting to some Acts of Grace and favour there (which were asked of Us, by reason of Our necessary residence from thence) hath encouraged these ill-affected persons, to endeavour by force to obtain the same here, where We usually reside.

To conclude, We cannot doubt Our good Subjects there, will so farre hearken to the Treason and Malice of Our Enemies, as to interrupt their own present Peace and happinesse. And God so deal with Us and Our Posterity, as We inviolably observe the Laws and Statutes of that Our Native Kingdom, and the Protestations We have so often made to this, for the defence of the true reformed Protestant Religion, the Laws of the Land, and the just Priviledges and Freedom of Parliament.

TO THE KINGS *MOST SACRED AND* Excellent *MAIESTY.*

Moſt Sacred SOVERAIGN,

E have received from the Earl of *Lanerick* Your Majeſties Letter of the 21. of *April.* Wherein wes incloſed Your Majeſties gracious Declaration to Your Native Subjects of this Kingdom, Which according to Your Majeſties Warrant We have ordained to be Printed and Publiſhed. And as We do with all humble duty and thankfulneſſe acknowledge Your Majeſties grace and goodneſſe, ſo We reſt fully ſatisfied with the Expreſſions of Your gracious intentions toward ws, and deſire of preſerving of Peace amongſt ws, and ſall according to Our duty, and truſt repoſed in ws be Your Majeſty and Eſtates of Parliament, Purſue all ſuch courſes as may continue the ſame, and endeavour to prevent all Jealouſies which may ariſe upon any groundleſſe report of levying of Arms, or maintaining of Forces within this Kingdom, without ſpeciall Warrant from Your Majeſty and Eſtates of Parliament. And in this and every other thing ellis ſall behave our ſelves in ſuch a dutifull way as becomes.

Your Majeſties moſt humble Subjects and Servants.

Edinburgh, 1. June, 1643.

FINIS.